

Message Text

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41

ACTION OES-06

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UNCLAS ROME 13149

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, US, IT

SUBJECT: LETHAL GAS EXPLOSION IN LOMBARDY - DR. POLAND'S TRAVEL

FOR OES/SCI FOR H. SPIELMAN

REF: (A) ROME 12878; (B) STATE 196962; (C) STATE 198477

1. DR. POLAND ARRIVED IN ROME AUGUST 11 AND MET WITH ALL COGNIZANT MIN OF HEALTH PARTICIPANTS AS WELL AS WITH PROF. POCCHIARI AND HIS STAFF, ALL OF WHOM HAD PARTICIPATED IN COMMITTEE MEETING OF AUGUST 10 IN MILAN.

2. AT REQUEST OF PROF. POCCHIARI TO DR. POLAND FOR DIOXINE, SCICOUNS CONTACTED MR. GOVER OF DR. PLAND'S STAFF TO HAVE 50 MMG OF DIOXINE FORWARDED TO EMB FOR PROF. POCCHIARI. DIOXINE NOT YET ARRIVED.

3. MINISTRY OF HEALTH PROCEEDING ON 6-NATION TELE-CONFERENCE WITH PARTICIPANTS TIED-IN THROUGH SATELLITE CONNECTION. EMB BELIEVES THAT POLITICAL MOTIVATION TO ACQUIRE SUPPORT FOR ITALY'S TELEMEDICINE PROJECT AND TO DEMONSTRATE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN TO PUBLIC IS BASIS OF SATELLITE TELECAST. EMB AWAITING NAMES OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS AND PROPOSED STUDIO LOCATION.

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4. DR. POLAND MET WITH PROF. POCCHIARI AND HIS STAFF AT ITALY'S NATIONAL INST. OF HEALTH AND WILL SPEND AFTERNOON IN MILAN TO OBTAIN DIRECT SITE INFORMATION. POCCHIARI AND VANNUGLI EXPRESSED STRONG POSITIVE IMPRESSION OF DR POLAND'S HELP. HIS KNOWLEDGE, ENTHUSIASM AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE WERE OBVIOUS.

5. SCICOUNS REITERATED TO MIN OF HEALTH OFFICIALS THAT ITALIAN EMB IN WASHINGTON HAS NOT YET RECEIVED COMMUNICATION ON PROPOSED TELECAST AND WAS ASSURED THAT IT WAS BEING TAKEN CARE OF.

6. PROF. SUMMERFELD OF UNIV OF LONDON TELEPHONED SCICOUNS FROM LONDON COMPLAIN THAT WE DID NOT INCLUDE PSYCHOLOGISTS IN PROGRAM. HE WAS ADVISED THAT IT WAS NOT AN U.S. BUT AN ITALIAN PROGRAM.VOLPE

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